

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

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*B1* [0077] In practice, it is naturally the lower surface of the sole 1, or more precisely of the front 3 and/or rear 4 half-sole that has a form and means provided to cooperate with a sports apparatus, for example a cross-country ski. Thus, the half-sole or half-soles 3, 4 themselves can be constituted by at least one piece 8, ~~8a~~, 9<sub>3</sub>, 9<sub>4</sub>, 13 for guiding and/or for connecting to a sports apparatus. In addition to guiding the sole and boot, inasmuch as the elements 8, and optional wear pads 8a, support the boot on the ground and on the sports apparatus, when connected thereto, the elements 8 (and pads 8a, if utilized) can be regarded more generally as tread members.

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